

Message Text

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ACTION SS-30

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2424

C O N F I D E N T I A * L USUN 231

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, UN, XF

SUBJ: MIDDLE EAST: LETTER FROM SYG TO SECRETARY

REF: USUN 209

1. AT MEETING WITH ASYG URQUHART THIS MORNING
AMB SCHAUFEELE EXPRESSED HIS OPINION THAT IT WOULD HAVE
BEEN PREFERABLE TO DISCUSS QUESTIONS RAISED IN SYG'S
LETTER ENCLOSED IN REFTEL RATHER THAN PUTTING THEM IN
WRITING.

2. URQUHART SAID HE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE BUT SYG HAD
BEEN ANXIOUS TO MOVE AHEAD AND SECRETARIAT WAS
CONSTANT TARGET OF SOVIET, POLISH AND OTHER COMPLAINTS
ABOUT ISRAELI RESTRICTIONS ON CONTINGENTS FROM COUNTRIES
WHICH DO NOT HAVE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. HE
NOTED THIS HAS BEEN PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT PROBLEM SINCE
ONLY POLES PROVIDE CERTAIN KINDS OF SERVICES AND CAN
NOW DO SO ON THE EGYPTIAN SIDE OF LINE ONLY.

HE NOTED IN PASSING THAT POLISH CONTINGENT IS TOP-NOTCH
WITH EXCELLENT EQUIPMENT AND THAT POLES APPEAR VERY
ANXIOUS TO PROVE THEMSELVES.

3. SCHAUFEELE REMINDED URQUHART THAT REGARDLESS OF THE
ACTION OF THE COUNCIL AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE FORCE
US HAD ALWAYS MAINTAINED THAT CONTINGENTS SHOULD BE
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ACCEPTABLE TO ALL PARTIES IN THIS KIND OF OPERATION IN
ORDE* TO PREVENT EXACTLY THIS KIND OF SITUATION. FURTHER-
MORE UNEF DEPLOYMENT IN BUFFER ZONE SHOULD MAKE TECHNICAL
AND LOGISTIC PROBLEMS EASIER TO HANDLE. URQUHART AGREED.

4. SCHAUFLE STRESSED THAT FACT THAT USUN DID NOT MAKE THE ROUNDS IN THE SECRETARIAT WHEN IT HEARD OF SOVIET DEMARCHES DID NOT MEAN ANY LACK OF US INTEREST OR ANY CHANGE IN US VIEWPOINTS.

5. REGARDING UNTSO URQUHART SAID THAT HEADQUARTERS HAD AGREED THAT UNTSO OFFICERS COULD BE USED IN BODY RECOVERY OPERATION ALONG WITH UNEF AND RED CROSS.

6. MORE IMPORTANT, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF SYG'S LETTER, IS THAT ISRAELI NEGOTIATOR AT KM 101 HAD PROPOSED THAT UNTSO BE USED FOR INSPECTING THE LIGHTLY ARMED AREAS HELD BY BOTH FORCES. URQUHART SAID HE SAW NO OBJECTION TO THIS IF THE PARTIES THEMSELVES AGREED. SCHAUFLE DEMURRED AND NOTED THAT THE AGREEMENT SPOKE ONLY OF UNEF AND SUGGESTED THAT UN NOT PROCEED ANY FURTHER ON THIS PATH UNTIL HE HAD HAD A CHANCE TO CONSULT WITH WASHINGTON.

7. REVERTING TO SYG'S LETTER, SCHAUFLE SUGGESTED THAT UN SHOULD NOT EXPECT A WRITTEN REPLY AND URQUHART HASTENED TO CONCUR, SAYING THAT SYG DID NOT NECESSARILY EXPECT A WRITTEN REPLY BUT HOPED IT COULD BE DISCUSSED IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS.

8. SCHAUFLE HAS APPOINTMENT WITH URQUHART AFTERNOON JAN 24 TO DISCUSS IN GREATER DEPTH OBSERVATIONS FROM LATTER'S TRIP TO ME AND THIS SUBJECT.
BENNETT

CONFIDENTIAL

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